

Sangamon Valley LEPC

P.O. Box 2105, Springfield IL 62705

January 20, 2011

Summary Report Relative to LEPC Activities During 2010

During calendar year 2010, the Sangamon Valley LEPC convened regularly scheduled meetings on five occasions: January 21, March 18, May 20, September 16 and November 18. A quorum of our membership was present at each of these meetings. Meetings were held at the Office of the State Fire Marshal (3), Athens Community Park (1, May) and the Sangamon County Office of Emergency Management (1, September).

The January LEPC meeting was attended by 12 members and 1 visitor. It provided the Chair, David Butt, with the opportunity to present the committee with the 2009 LEPC Summary Report which was reviewed and approved for submission to the State Emergency Response Committee (SERC). As 2010 began, our Emergency Coordinator, Matt Helms, had completed site specific plans for 53 facilities storing Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) and for 2 facilities storing petroleum products as bulk fuel terminals. Planning for at least 7 EHS sites was still needed, based on the Tier 2 reporting of 2009 and our knowledge of a site storing Chlorine for resale which would be making its first filing of a Tier 2 form based on its inventory at the end of 2009.

The January meeting also was used by the committee to amend our LEPC By-Laws to conform with the newly revised IL Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Procedures for handling FOIA requests to the LEPC were also approved.

The March LEPC meeting was attended by 17 members and 2 visitors. Presentations were made by 2 of our members to the committee. Jim Strutz presented information on the Illinois Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (ILWARN) which is a statewide mutual aid organization of both public and private utilities with membership that extends to other entities with water/wastewater issues such as hospitals. Billy Ousley presented information on sources that the National Weather Service has for reliable data acquisition and how this data is used in the midst of severe weather events such as wide spread river flooding which was effecting much of the upper Midwest at the time of the meeting.

The May LEPC meeting was attended by 15 members and 5 visitors. This was the second year that we held our May meeting in Menard County. Something we intend to continue. Brian Churchill and John Brennan made 2 presentations to the committee pertinent to their memberships representing the First Aid/Hospitals disciplines on the LEPC. First, the pair discussed emergency medical treatment for Anhydrous Ammonia (NH₃) exposure after a rash of NH₃ releases across the state during April. Then, Brian gave a solo overview of the St. John's Hospital Hazard and Vulnerability Analysis which has many parallels with our HAZMAT analysis and has us both benefiting from the community partnership we share.

On June 24, Sangamon County held an Interoperable Communications Tabletop Exercise (TTX) for which the LEPC was a co-sponsor. The scenario featured a railroad accident involving the transportation of Chlorine. Our member, Louie Rogers, hosted the TTX at the Riverton Firehouse. The After Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) for this TTX was distributed to all members of the LEPC in advance of our September meeting.

The September LEPC meeting was attended by 13 members and 8 visitors. It was our annual meeting giving the public an opportunity to review planning documents and ask questions. A press release to this effect had been issued and the visitors attended for the primary purpose to look over our plans. A ninth visitor inspected plans and departed before the meeting convened. A total of 62 site specific plans were on display: 54 plans for EHS storage above the threshold planning quantity (TPQ); 6 plans for Verizon Wireless facilities errantly written for storage below the TPQ which are maintained and updated annually and 2 plans for bulk fuel terminals which do not store EHS, but pose a substantial risk to their communities. Our initial goal to have a written plan for every facility in the planning district which reports storage of EHS above the TPQ on its Tier 2 form has finally been met. An examination of the plans on display showed that the second goal of our LEPC to always make an annual update to every written plan has been continuously met.

After reviewing the AAR/IP, the topic of exercises was discussed further at the September meeting with a presentation by Tim Franke, Springfield Airport Authority. Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport will be holding a Full-Scale Exercise on May 4, 2011, in which several members of our LEPC will be asked to participate. A video which recapped the airport's previous exercise was shown. A second video shown at the meeting was provided by the SERC to give the Chemical Safety Board's analysis and conclusions about the 2004 Formosa Plastics plant explosion within our planning district.

The September meeting also saw the committee extend the Emergency Coordinator's contract for another year to continue our site specific planning project. A spending plan for FFY2011 was discussed and an application for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant was approved.

The November LEPC meeting was attended by 15 members and 1 visitor. Having met our initial goal of completing a written plan for every facility known to store EHS above the TPQ based on the Tier 2 forms filed with the LEPC, the committee discussed other sites for which planning should be pursued. One example brought forward was a facility that reports EHS on its Tier 2 form, but at a quantity barely below the TPQ. Another example was a facility that is not filing a Tier 2 form, but possibly should, because we believe that it may be storing a significant quantity of EHS. Working with such facilities was identified as a new goal for our LEPC.

In early December, Matt Helms made a site visit to the Ameren Illinois facility in Springfield. Its Tier 2 form filed in February showed storage of Sulfuric Acid of less than 100 pounds below the TPQ. Matt continues to work with Ameren to verify whether or not we should pursue a plan for this facility. After contacts from our LEPC throughout the fall, Custom Chemical Engineering filed its initial Tier 2 form with the SERC on December 29. It shows storage of EHS above the TPQ. In 2011, we will complete a site specific plan for this facility.

Statistics for LEPC activities during 2010 are as follows:

127 Tier 2 forms were received for sites within Sangamon County. 14 Tier 2 forms were received for sites within Menard County. Of these 141 filings, 81 included at least one EHS chemical and 60 were for non-EHS sites. Our Emergency Coordinator completed 7 new site specific plans. This brings his total over 5 years to 62. Of these 62 completed plans, 13 received their first annual revision, 17 received their second annual revision, 12 received their third annual revision and 13 received their fourth annual revision during 2010. The Emergency Coordinator drove nearly 5,000 miles during 2010 while pursuing our site specific planning project for EHS chemicals stored within Sangamon and Menard Counties. Sangamon Valley LEPC has 33 members.

Respectfully submitted,

DButt

LEPC Chair